12th Grade Vocab List

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| Abjure – v. Solemnly renounce |
| Abrogate – v. Repeal or do away with; abolish |
| Abstemious – adj. Not self-indulgent; abstinent |
| Acrid – adj. Angry and bitter; unpleasantly pungent in odor |
| Acumen – n. Quickness and keenness of judgment |
| Aesthetic – n. Set of underlying principles guiding a work |
| Akimbo – v. Limbs bent, most often hands on hips |
| Allay – v. Diminish; soothe or alleviate |
| Ambulatory – adj. Relating to or adapted for walking |
| Aplomb – adj. Confident composure or self-assurance |
| Articulate – v. Express fluently and coherently |
| Assiduous – adj. Showing great care and perseverance |
| Attenuate – v. Weaken or reduce in force or value |
| Banal – adj. Lacking originality; trite, commonplace |
| Belie – v. To disguise or contradict |
| Bellicose – adj. Demonstrating aggression/willingness to fight |
| Blurb – n. A brief publicity notice |
| Bowdlerize– v. Cleanse of something morally harmful |
| Brigand – n. A robber or bandit |
| Cajolery – v. To persuade by flattery |
| Capacious – adj. Having a lot of space inside; roomy |
| Caustic – adj. Severely critical or sarcastic |
| Chasm – n. Profound difference between people; marked division |
| Chicanery – v. Deception by trickery or deceit |
| Chuffed – v. Moved with a sharp puffing sound |
| Churlish – adj. Rude in mean-spirited way |
| Circumlocution – n. Use of unnecessarily wordy language |
| Circumnavigate – v. Go around or across something |
| Complacent – adj. Not easily stirred or moved; unemotional |
| Consign – v. To give over care to another |
| Copious – adj. Abundant in supply or quantity |
| Corollary – n. Proposition formed by one already proved |
| Cosmopolitan – adj. Common to the whole world |
| Culpability – n. State of guilt or blame |
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| Deciduous – adj. Shedding of leaves annually |
| Denigrate – v. Criticize unfairly; defame |
| Deposition – n. Process of giving sworn evidence |
| Diaphanous – adj. Light, delicate and translucent |
| Diffident – adj. Hesitant in acting or speaking; shy |
| Discourse – n. Lengthy discussion of a topic |
| Discrepant – adj. Lacking agreement; differing |
| Dissever – v. To divide into parts; separate |
| Distention – n. Being stretched beyond normal dimensions |
| Edify – v. To improve morally; uplift |
| Elegiac – adj. Having a mournful quality |
| Empirical – adj. Derived from observation or experiment |
| Enervate – adj. Lacking in energy/vitality |
| Enfranchise – v. Give the right to vote; to free |
| Ennui – n. Dissatisfaction resulting from loss of interest |
| Epiphany – n. Sudden realization |
| Evanescent – adj. Quickly fading or disappearing; fleeting |
| Expurgate – v. Remove material considered offensive |
| Facetious – adj. Joking or jesting inappropriately |
| Fiduciary – adj. Involving trust; a trustee |
| Flagrant – adj. Conspicuously or obviously offensive |
| Foppery – n. Foolish quality or action |
| Fulsome – adj. Offensively flattering or insincere |
| Gamete – n. Mature reproductive cell |
| Gentrification – v. Restoration of deteriorated urban property |
| Hegemony – n. Leadership or dominance |
| Hypotenuse – n. Longest side of a right triangle |
| Idyllic – adj. Extremely peaceful and picturesque |
| Ignoble – adj. Not honorable in character or purpose |
| Ignominious – adj. Deserving or causing public disgrace/shame |
| Impasse – n. Situation where no progress is possible |
| Impeach – v. Question integrity of; accuse |
| Inalienable – adj. Incapable of being transferred/surrendered |
| Incendiary – adj. Causing or capable of fires |
| Incisive – adj. Clear-thinking, well-focused; acute |
| Incognito – adj. Having true identity concealed |
| Ineffable – adj. Incapable of being expressed in words |
| Infidel – n. Unbeliever with respect to another religion |
| Ingénue – n. Naïve or innocent, young girl |
| Innuendo – n. An indirect or subtle implication |
| Innumerable – adj. Too many to be counted |
| Inroad – n. An advance or encroachment |
| Insolence – n. Audaciously rude or disrespectful behavior |
| Interdependence – n. Mutual dependence between things |
| Irascible – adj. Easily made angry |
| Irradiate – n. To expose to radiation |
| Jejune – adj. Naïve, simplistic, and superficial |
| Jurisprudence – n. Science or philosophy of law |
| Juxtapose – v. To place together for contrasting effect |
| Kinetic – n. Relating to or resulting from motion |
| Kowtow – v. To grovel; to go along with |
| Laconic – adj. Concise to point of seeming rude; brief |
| Lexicon – n. Vocabulary of a subject or language |
| Litigious – adj. Inclined to dispute or disagree |
| Loquacious – adj. Talkative; chatty |
| Matriculation – v. Admission to a group |
| Metonymy – n. Where word/phrase is substituted for another |
| Moiety – n. Component into which something is divided |
| Moot – adj. Open to discussion or debate; disputable |
| Narcissism – n. Excessive interest in oneself |
| Nascent – adj. Coming into existence; emerging |
| Nefarious – adj. Wicked or criminal; villainous |
| Oblation – n. Act of offering something to a deity |
| Oblivion – n. State of being unaware |
| Obsequious – adj. Excessively obedient or attentive |
| Oligarchy – n. Government ruled by a small faction |
| Omnipotent – adj. Having unlimited power |
| Oratory – n. Practice of formal speaking in public |
| Palpable – adj. Capable of being touched or felt |
| Paltry – adj. Small or meager |
| Paradigm – n. Example or pattern; a model |
| Paragon – n. Model/pattern of excellence |
| Patronize – n. Treat with apparent kindness; protect |
| Pauperism – n. State of extreme poverty or destitution |
| Pecuniary – adj. Of or relating to money |
| Pedagogy – n. Method or practice of teaching |
| Pedantic – adj. Caring too much for formalities; meticulous |
| Permeate – v. Spread throughout something |
| Pernicious – adj. Having a harmful effect in a gradual way |
| Pertinacity – adj. Stubborn persistence; resolute |
| Physiognomy – n. Person’s facial features or expressions |
| Plagiarize – v. To steal and pass off as one’s work |
| Potency – n. Power or influence |
| Primeval – adj. Belonging to the first/earliest ages |
| Propitiate – v. Win or regain favor of; conciliate |
| Rapacious – adj. Aggressively greedy; ravenous |
| Rapport – n. Close and harmonious relationship |
| Renunciation – n. Formal rejection of something |
| Repudiate – v. Refuse to accept validity of; reject |
| Repugnant – adj. Arousing distaste or aversion |
| Retinue – n. Attendants with a high-ranking person |
| Ribald – adj. Indulging in vulgar, lewd humor |
| Rigmarole – n. Lengthy, complicated procedure |
| Schism – n. Split or division between parties |
| Sedulous – adj. Diligent in application or attention |
| Semblance -- |
| Servile – adj. Showing excessive willingness to please |
| Stagnation – v. State of being still; not moving |
| Stolid – adj. Uneager to improve or change |
| Subjugate – v. Bring under domain or control |
| Suppliant – adj. Asking humbly and earnestly |
| Tantamount – adj. Equivalent in value or effect |
| Tempestuous – adj. Very turbulent; stormy |
| Tenacious – adj. Not easily discouraged; persistent |
| Unctuous – adj. Exaggerated, insincere earnestness; oily |
| Vacuous – adj. Devoid of matter; empty/vacant |
| Vacuous – adj. Showing lack of thought/intelligence; vacant |
| Vapid – adj. Lacking liveliness or interest |
| Vehement – adj. Showing strong feeling; passionate |
| Verbiage – n. Excess of words for purpose |
| Vituperate – v. Abuse or censure severely |
| Vivify – v. To bring life to; animate |
| Wastrel – n. A wasteful person; a loafer |
| Withy – n. Tough flexible branch or willow |